In the Claims

cl

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An adsorbent medium comprising particles of a chopped cellulosic sponge material carrying functional groups, wherein the particles are of heterogeneous particle size and are obtained by chopping a larger block of the cellulosic sponge material.

Claim 2 (Original): A medium according to claim 1, wherein the sponge material is free of fibrous reinforcement.

Claim 3 (Previously Amended): A medium according to claim 1, which has a water retention value of greater than 6 ml/g.

Claim 4 (Previously Amended): A medium according to claim 1, wherein the sponge material is a naturally-occurring polymer.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A medium according to claim 4, wherein the polymer is cellulose or ~~aragese~~ agarose.

Claim 6 (Previously Amended): A medium according to claim 1, wherein the functional groups [illegible] DEAE.

Claim 7 (Original): A medium according to claim 6, wherein the functional groups are derived from DEAE.

Claim 8 (Previously Amended): A medium according to claim 1, wherein the particles are 0.5 to 10 mm in size.

Cl

Claim 9 (Previously Amended): A medium according to claim 1, capable of retaining species having a molecular weight of at least one million Daltons.

Claim 10 (Previously Amended): A medium according to claim 1, wherein the sponge material is cross-linked.

Claim 11 (Previously Amended): A method for purifying DNA in an aqueous sample, which comprises passing the sample through a medium according to claim 1.

Claims 12-14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A medium according to claim ~~14~~ 2, wherein the particles are cross-linked.

Claim 16 (Previously Added): A medium according to claim 15, wherein the particles are 0.5 to 10 mm in size.

Claim 17 (Previously Added): A medium according to claim 16 having a water retention value of greater than 6 ml/g.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A medium according to claim 3, wherein said sponge material comprises ~~particles of cellulosic sponge material carrying functional groups and wherein said~~ particles that are cross linked.

Claim 19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A medium according to claim ~~19~~ 18, wherein said particles are 0.5 to 10mm in size.

C1

Claim 21 (New): The medium according to claim 6, wherein the functional groups are tertiary amines or quaternary amines.

Claim 22 (New): The medium according to claim 21, wherein the tertiary amine is diethylaminoethane (DEAE).